



Porter Henderson Library Faculty Newsletter



Vol. 7, No. 4

Angelo State University

February 2003

Word From the Director

..... Dr. Maurice Fortin, Director

Construction is now underway on the Library's new floor. So far the noise is tolerable most of the time. One of the major features of the new floor will be the new elevator located near the exiting First Floor entrance. Work on the shaft for the elevator will begin as early as February 17th. Please keep this in mind when using the Library during the next year. As noise levels increase or services and/or resources move to temporary locations, signs will be posted as needed to direct users to quieter



areas or new locations for services and resources. As more information on the construction work becomes available, the Library will keep the campus informed of any additional disruptions in access or services. Hopefully, these disruptions will be minor and short in duration.

As we enter and endure another Texas legislative session, please use the Library's new web links to State sites where you can track legislation and the latest developments from Austin. Janetta Paschal, Government Documents/Reference Librarian, has compiled a new special topics page "78th Texas Legislative Session" which should make this easier. (See page 3 for more information.) She is making every effort to keep the links up-to-date and is adding new resources and sites as they become available. Your input is needed to save valuable resources like the TexShare services which supply our campus with access to a wide number of databases and online journals. Information concerning the future of the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) may be found through these sites and links provided from the Library's homepage.

This issue of the *Newsletter* contains information on several new database services available from the Library's web site. It also includes the annual update on tax resources available to help you with preparing

your 2002 income tax forms and a reminder about the deadline for order requests from the Library's Materials Budget.

Please let me know of any improvements, new services, or resources you would like to see in the Library. (Maurice.Fortin@angelo.edu or 942-2222)

Good News, Bad News from Reference

..... Mark Allan, Head, Reference Dept.

First, the good news

The Library is pleased to announce its subscription to three new databases in 2003, all made possible by the LIFE (Library Improvement & Funding Enterprise) fee that was enacted and approved by the ASU student body. As the Porter Henderson Library is very conscious of students' preference for full text resources, an effort has been made to obtain full text *academic* resources that students will find relevant to their coursework at ASU. Furthermore, it is anticipated that full text resources that can be accessed from off-campus will play an increasingly important role in student research, particularly with the Library being under construction for next two years.

The three new resources are:

- **The Oxford English Dictionary** – The online version of this exceptional resource makes available full text searching of the information contained in the print set of volumes, as well as additional, newly added entries not included in the print set.
- **Project Muse** – This database provides "online, worldwide access to the full text of more than 200 scholarly journals in arts and humanities, social sciences and mathematics."

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- **JSTOR, Arts and Sciences Collections I & II** – These collections contain the *full archives* of nearly 300 scholarly journals. JSTOR balances the needs of libraries, scholars, and libraries by providing preservation and access to journals following a reasonable period of time after journal issues are initially published (generally 3 to 5 years).

Titles found in Project Muse are included in the Library's RamCOPS service; JSTOR titles, since they are *archival*, not current, will not be found there. Links to full text articles available through Project Muse also can be found in the two ABC-Clio databases, *America: History and Life* and *Historical Abstracts*.

And now the Bad News

Porter Henderson Library patrons currently make heavy use of TexShare databases. For example, during the Fall 2002 Semester (September-December)



in two of the most used TexShare databases, users performed 5,242 searches in Academic Search Premier, retrieving 17,578 documents, and 2,959 searches in

Business & Company Research Center. Over 24,000 total searches (24,332) were performed in all of the TexShare databases.

These resources up to now have been either entirely or mostly financed by the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) Board and the Texas State Libraries and Archives Commission (depending upon the fiscal year). As database access may be purchased more cheaply for those databases with the highest user base, the cost savings realized by TexShare is enormous. As a matter of fact, it would have cost the 634 libraries participating in the TexShare database program over \$390,121,688 dollars to purchase the database subscriptions and the ebook collection that were purchased by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for under \$10,000,000.* This works out to an approximate figure of \$615,334 for resources that the Library was able to

provide its patrons at practically no expense to itself.

However, with the current Texas state budget shortfall, TIF and TexShare are endangered. Needless to say, the Library itself is in no position to "pick up the tab" on more than \$600,000 worth of resources. Faculty and students who utilize any of the TexShare databases are encouraged to get the word out about the importance of these resources to their academic and classroom use.

Tax Information in the Library

Tax cuts or no tax cuts ... we still must file some paperwork with the Internal Revenue Service by the April 15th deadline. And since this is the February newsletter – and that deadline approaches rapidly – there must be a story on tax information available in (or accessible through) the Porter Henderson Library.

Selected individual IRS tax forms, schedules, and instructions can be found on a cart near the entrance to the Juvenile Collection. You can find volume 1 of the *Reproducible federal tax forms* for 2002 at the Circulation Desk. (Volume 2 should arrive shortly.)

As Internet use from homes increase, more and more people are using the IRS tax information web site, as recommended by the Internal Revenue Service. Forms can be downloaded or printed from <http://www.irs.gov/>. Use the "Search Forms and Publications for:" box on the left side of the screen to find the form or publication you require. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (available for download at the site) on your computer to view these items. The site includes "fill-in" forms (*e.g.*, 1040, Schedule A (Form 8610), and 1040-V) which can be completed online and printed before sending to the IRS. (This feature saves having to complete the form(s) manually using a typewriter or pen; however, it is *not* the same as filing electronically.)

Are you interested in e-filing? Check out the IRS e-file site for more information: <http://www.irs.gov/efile/index.html>. There are sections on e-file for individuals and for businesses. The IRS has partnered with various private industry companies that offer affordable, convenient, user-friendly e-file and electronic payment options, as well as a variety of other services, to assist the individual taxpayer. See "IRS e-file Partners for Taxpayers" (<http://www.irs.gov/efile/index.html>).

* "Database Information," TexShare web site at <http://www.texshare.edu/programs/academicdb/costsavings.html>

irs.gov/efile/lists/0,,id=101223.00.html) for more information on these free or low-cost options.

Another electronic access point for tax forms and publications is via CD-ROM. The *2002 CD-ROM tax products* disc is installed on the same government documents computer, in Cartridge #1. (You have to have this cartridge installed in the external CD drive to use the disc.) Clicking on the "Taxpayer Information Publications" icon will open a list of information publications available on the disc. The current release (2002.1) contains only a partial group of these publications but the updated release should contain them all. These electronic documents are the same ones available in paper at the Circulation Desk in the *Taxpayer information publications* and the *Business taxpayer information publications* books.

Order Request Deadline Approaching

The April 15th deadline is fast approaching for all order requests from the Library's Materials Budget. After April 15th, any remaining funds in academic departmental accounts will be placed in the Library's "Excellence Fund." Each academic department, then may submit requests for expensive library materials that normal allocations cannot cover. A subcommittee from the University Library Committee will approve expenditures from the Excellence Fund.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Javad Maher, Acquisitions Librarian (Javad.Maher@angelo.edu or 942-2312).



"78th Texas Legislative Session"

The 78th Texas Legislature is slowly moving into action in Austin. Governor Rick Perry and Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn have spoken. And now



legislators have a number of pressing issues to address, the most important of which is the projected \$9.9 billion budget shortfall. State agencies have been ordered to cut 7% from their 2002-2003 budgets to help balance

the FY2003 budget. Very few programs are exempt from this order.

To help Library users track legislation, locate budget projections and estimates, and monitor House and Senate Committee activities, Janetta Paschal, Government Documents/Reference Librarian, has made available a new web page on the Government Documents web site. The page, "78th Texas Legislative Session," compiles relevant Texas legislative and other related web sites into major topic areas. The main areas include Legislation, Budget and Appropriations, and House and Senate. Users can connect to the various sites that track bills and legislation and locate further information on the issues. Links to the Legislative Budget Board's 2004-2005 budget estimates and recommendations and the Comptroller's biennial revenue estimate are also included, as well as Governor Perry's "zero-based" budget.

The House and Senate sections include links to member lists; committee assignments, appointments, hearings, and meetings; and committee information. The House section also contains links to the Interim Committee charges and reports, which make recommendations to the 78th Legislature, and the *Daily floor report*, published by the House Research Organization.

This page will be updated during the course of the Legislative Session. Currently, a link to the new page is located on "Government Documents and Maps" at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/> or users may connect directly to <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/tx78th.htm>. If you have any comments or suggestions for sites to include please contact Janetta at Janetta.Paschal@angelo.edu or 942-2300.



In Memory of the Crew of the Space Shuttle Columbia, STS-107

Launched: January 16, 2003, at 9:39 a.m. CST

Duration: 15 days, 22 hours, 20 minutes

Columbia and crew lost during entry 16 minutes
before landing February 1, 2003